

- Group IV: Claims 8-10 drawn to a recombinant vector;
- Group V: Claim 11, drawn to a host cell;
- Group VI: Claim 12, drawn to polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies;
- Group VII: Claim 14, drawn to an immunogenic composition;
- Group VII: Claim 15, drawn to a method of using the peptide for preparation of a medicament for the prevention and/or the treatment of pathological conditions;
- Group IX: Claims 16-17, drawn to a method of preparation of attenuated strains of flavivirus;
- Group X: Claims 18-19, drawn to a direct and serological detection of a flavivirus infection; and
- Group XI: Claim 20, drawn to a method for the vaccinal survey of a patient.

Applicants have elected, with traverse, Group I: Claims 1-3, and 13, drawn to an isolated and purified peptide and a pharmaceutical composition, for examination.

MPEP in §803 states as follows:

"If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without a serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions."

Applicants respectfully submit that a search of all the claims would not impose a serious burden on the Office. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement.

Finally, Applicants note that MPEP §821.04 states:

"if an applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined."

Applicants respectfully submit that should the elected group be found allowable, the non-elected process claims should be rejoined.

Application Serial No.: 10/608,029

Response to Restriction Requirement mailed May 18, 2005

Applicants submit this application is now in condition for examination on the merits
and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

NFO:CJA



Daniel Pereira, Ph.D.
Registration No. 45,518